

**FUR0011-US**



**PATENT**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

SEIICHI TENPAKU ET AL.

Serial No.: 09/678,544

Filed: October 4, 2000

For: DEVICE AND METHOD FOR  
SYNTHESIZING SPEECH

Art Unit: 2654

Examiner: LERNER, MARTIN

## **RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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JUN 09 2004

## Technology Center 2600

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed on May 17, 2004, Applicants hereby provisionally elect, with traverse, to prosecute the claims of Group I (claims 1-11 and 16-18, drawn to a speech synthesis device, computer-readable medium for storing a program, and method of modifying a speech waveform as it is converging on a minus peak, classified in class 704, subclass 207) in the present application.

However, applicants respectfully traverse the restriction requirement since the subject matter of all of claims 1-18, is sufficiently related that a thorough and complete search for the subject matter of the elected claims would necessarily encompass a thorough and complete search for the subject matter of the non-elected claims. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the restriction requirement be withdrawn and that the present application be examined

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according to MPEP § 803 so as to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to the Applicants and  
improper duplicative examination by the Patent Office.

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Date: June 8, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

SEIICHI TENPAKU ET AL.

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MDB/ggb